

Conservation Activity Evaluation Tool

CSP-2017-1_MT - NIPF_Forest

Soil Erosion

Sheet and Rill Erosion

| P | Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| | Screening level: Soil surface organic residue cover > 80%. Assessment evel: Site is stable and without visible signs of erosion. | Yes | No |
| F | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| la | Drainage and erosion control measures are implemented on trails and andings to minimize detrimental effects of concentrated flow, erosion and sedimentation. Stream crossings are restored and stabilized. | Yes | No |
| r | The forest floor is covered with leaves, needles, fine woody debris, ocks, and/or herbaceous vegetation that protects the soil on more than 30 percent of the area. | Yes | No |
| Clas | ssic Gully Erosion | | |
| F | Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met |
| c | Screening level: Classic gullies are not present. Assessment level: Classic gully management is adequate to stop the progression of head cutting and widening and are offsite impacts are minimized by regetation and/or structures. | Yes | No |
| F | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| | Soil erosion is controlled. There are no impacts on sensitive regetation. There are no occurrences or enlargement of gullies. | Yes | No 🗌 |
| la | Drainage and erosion control measures are implemented on trails and andings to minimize detrimental effects of concentrated flow, erosion and sedimentation. Stream crossings are restored and stabilized. | Yes | No |



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Streambank, Shoreline, Water Conveyance Channels

| Planning Criteria | Planning Cri | iteria Met |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Screening level: Streams, shoreline or channels are not adjacent to site. Assessment level: For shorelines and water conveyance channels; banks are stable or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes, AND if bank erosion is present, it is beyond the client's control or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes, AND for streambanks, SVAP2 bank condition element score > 5. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation T | Test Met |
| Excluding all fundamentally unstable, natural geomorphic streambanks/shorelines, all streambanks/shorelines on the operation show few signs of erosion or bank failure. Each is stable and protected with natural materials. | Yes | No |



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Soil Quality Degradation

Organic Matter Depletion

| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| | Screening level: Soil organic matter depletion is not a problem AND activities do not cause soil organic matter depletion. Assessment level: Ground cover meets state criteria specific to ecological site. | Yes | No 🗌 |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| | The forest floor is covered with leaves, needles, fine woody debris, rocks, and/or herbaceous vegetation that protects the soil on more than 80 percent of the area. The topsoil is not displaced. Woody residue is being added to the forest floor through branch breakage and treefalls. | Yes | No |
| <u>C</u> | ompaction | | |
| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met |
| | Screening level: Soil compaction is not a problem AND activities do not cause soil compaction problems. Assessment level: Compaction is managed to meet client's production and management objectives. | Yes | No 🗌 |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| | Soil compaction is limited to roads and landings. Tree root growth is not impeded. No more than 15 percent of the forested area is devoted to roads, trails, and landings. | Yes | No |



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Excess Water

Runoff and Flooding and Ponding

| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | Screening level: Ponding or flooding not a problem AND activities do not cause ponding/flooding problems. Assessment level: Excess water is managed to meet client's objectives. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| | Drainage and erosion control measures are implemented on trails and landings to minimize detrimental effects of concentrated flow, erosion and sedimentation. Stream crossings are restored and stabilized. | Yes | No |
| Se | asonal High Water Table | | |
| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met |
| | Screening level: Seasonal high water table does not cause a problem. Assessment level: Excess water is managed to meet client's objectives. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| | Forest management controls the soil moisture levels such that cyclical water table changes are not extreme. | Yes | No |



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Insufficient Water

Inefficient Moisture Management

| Planning Criteria | Planning Cr | riteria Met |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Screening level: Moisture management is not a problem AND activities do not cause inefficient moisture management problems. Assessment level: Runoff and evapotranspiration levels are minimized to meet client's management objectives. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation 7 | Гest Met |
| Management choices include actions to limit moisture loss. For example, maintaining shade, retaining the forest litter layer, and maintaining correct stocking levels. | Yes | No 🗌 |



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Water Quality Degradation

Pesticides in Surface Water

| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | Screening level: Pest control chemicals are not applied. Assessment level: Pesticides are stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching AND conservation practices and managements are in place to minimize surface water impacts. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| | A site-specific mixture of prevention, avoidance, monitoring, and suppression (PAMS) strategies are applied. If pesticide aplication is required, an environmental risk screening tool is used (such as WIN-PST or similar LGU approval tool) and application rates and timing are compliant with the label and the conservation plan. | Yes | No |
| <u>Pe</u> | sticides in Ground Water | | |
| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met |
| | Screening level: Pest control chemicals are not applied. Assessment level: Pesticides are stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching AND conservation practices and managements are in place to minimize ground water impacts. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| | Pesticides are applied using a site-specific mixture of prevention, avoidance, monitoring, and suppression (PAMS) strategies. Environmental risk screening tool are used (such as WIN-PST or similar LGU approval tool). Application rates and timing are compliant with the label and the conservation plan. | Yes | No |



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Nutrients in Surface Water

| Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Screening level: Organic or inorganic nutrients are not applied AND the PLU is not grazed AND there are no confined livestock areas. Assessment level: Nutrients if applied, are based on a soil test, tissue tests or nutrient budget AND conservation practices and managements are in place to minimize surface water impacts. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| The land adjacent to a stream, river, or other waterbody on the side or sides you control does: - have diverse, natural plant cover typical to that along streams in your area, - extend from the stream bank/shoreline for a distance of 35 feet or (if applicable) the minimum State buffer-width requirement, whichever is greater, AND - have few places where concentrated runoff flows through. | Yes | No |
| Livestock access to stream is controlled OR limited to small watering or crossing areas | Yes | No 🗌 |
| Drainage and erosion control measures are implemented on trails and landings to minimize detrimental effects of concentrated flow, erosion and sedimentation. Stream crossings are restored and stabilized. | Yes | No |
| xcess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids on Surface Water | · Compost Ap | <u>plications</u> |
| Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met |
| Screening level: Potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals are not applied on the land. Assessment level: Organic materials are applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to surface water sources. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| Livestock access to stream is controlled OR limited to small watering or crossing areas | Yes | No 🗌 |



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Petroleum, Heavy Metal and Other Pollutants Transported to Surface Water

| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crit | eria Met |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| | Screening level: Activities do not present the potential for contamination by petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants. Assessment level: Petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants are stored and handled to avoid runoff to surface water. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | est Met |
| | The fuel storage area and tank is located: - above the 100-year floodplain, - a minimum of 100 feet from any river, stream, ditch, pond, lake, sinkhole, wetland, or water well, and - within a stable place designed to provide secondary containment if the primary means were to fail. | Yes | No |
| <u>Pe</u> | etroleum, Heavy Metal and Other Pollutants Transported t | o Ground W | <u>ater</u> |
| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crit | eria Met |
| | A site-specific mixture of prevention, avoidance, monitoring, and suppression (PAMS) strategies are applied. If pesticide aplication is required, an environmental risk screening tool is used (such as WIN-PST or similar LGU approval tool) and application rates and timing are compliant with the label and the conservation plan. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | est Met |
| | The fuel storage area and tank is located: - above the 100-year floodplain, - a minimum of 100 feet from any river, stream, ditch, pond, lake, sinkhole, wetland, or water well, and - within a stable place designed to provide secondary containment if the primary means | Yes | No |



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Excessive Sediment in Surface Water

| Planning Criteria | Planning Crit | teria Met |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Screening level: There are no untreated sources of erosion AND streams or shoreline are not on or adjacent to site. Assessment level: Upslope treatment and buffer practices address concentrated flows to water bodies AND heavy use areas are stable AND the SVAP2 - bank condition is >= 5. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation To | est Met |
| The land adjacent to a stream, river, or other waterbody on the side or sides you control does: - have diverse, natural plant cover typical to that along streams in your area, - extend from the stream bank/shoreline for a distance of 35 feet or (if applicable) the minimum State buffer-width requirement, whichever is greater, AND - have few places where concentrated runoff flows through. | Yes | No |
| Drainage and erosion control measures are implemented on trails and landings to minimize detrimental effects of concentrated flow, erosion and sedimentation. Stream crossings are restored and stabilized. | Yes | No |
| Elevated Water Temperature | | |
| Planning Criteria | Planning Crit | teria Met |
| Screening level: Water courses on or adjacent to the site are not designated by a State Agency as a temperature impairment OR water course temperature is not a client concern. Assessment level: The SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score is >= 5 AND the SVAP2 - riparian area quantity quality element score is >= 5 AND the SVAP2 - canopy cover element score is >= 6, OR existing conservation practices are in place to address water temperature. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation To | est Met |
| More than 50 percent of the water surface is shaded on the length of the stream/river you control. | Yes | No |



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Air Quality Impacts

Emission of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)

| Planning Criteria | Planning Cri | iteria Met |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Screening level: Activities are not present that produce GHGs emissions. GHG producing activities are: Fertilization(manure/commercial), CAFO/manure management, Engines (combustion source), Tillage, AND GHGs are not regulated in this planning area. Assessment level: Greenhouse gas emmissions are managed to meet client objectives. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation T | est Met |
| The forest or woodlot is fully stocked with tree species adapted to the site. Species have high-growth rates or long life span with the ability to reach a large size. | Yes | No |



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Degraded Plant Condition

Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health

| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crit | eria Met |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| | Screening level: Plant production and health is not a client concern. Assessment level: Forest species are adapted to site AND composition and stand density meets the client's objectives and production goals. | Yes | No 🗌 |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| | The forest or woodlot is fully stocked with tree species adapted to the site, has spacing for good tree growth and air flow between and beneath, does not have excessive tree mortality, has an understory made up of desirable species and is not inhibited by brush or other undesirable vegetation. Monitoring for Insects and disease is completed to prevent outbreaks that would be detrimental to forest health. | Yes | No |
| In | adequate Structure and Composition | | |
| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crit | eria Met |
| | Screening level: Plant communities support the intended land use and desired ecological functions. Assessment level: Plant communities contain adequate diversity, composition and structure to support desired ecological functions. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| | The forest or woodlot is fully stocked with tree species adapted to the site, has spacing for good tree growth and air flow between and beneath, does not have excessive tree mortality, has an understory made up of desirable species and is not inhibited by brush or other undesirable vegetation | Yes | No 🗌 |



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Excessive Plant Pest Pressure

| | Planning Criteria | Planning Cri | teria Met |
|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| | Screening level: Plant productivity is not limited from pest pressure. Assessment level: Pest damage to plants are below economic or environmental thresholds or client-identified criteria AND plant pests, including noxious and invasive species are managed to meet client objectives. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation T | est Met |
| | Invasive and noxious weeds are controlled or not present. | Yes | No 🗌 |
| | Trees are selected or planted that are tolerant of known damaging pests. | Yes | No |
| | The current plant composition prevents outbreak of non-desirable species. | Yes | No |
| W | 'ildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation | | |
| | | | |
| | Planning Criteria | Planning Cri | teria Met |
| | Planning Criteria Screening level: Wildfire hazards is not a concern. Assessment level: Fuel loads and fuel ladders are managed to provide defensible space and meet client objectives. | Planning Cri | teria Met |
| | Screening level: Wildfire hazards is not a concern. Assessment level: Fuel loads and fuel ladders are managed to provide defensible space | _ | No |
| | Screening level: Wildfire hazards is not a concern. Assessment level: Fuel loads and fuel ladders are managed to provide defensible space and meet client objectives. | Yes | No |



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<u>Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat</u>

Inadequate Habitat - Food

| | Planning Criteria | Planning Criteria Met | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------|--|
| | Assessment level: The WHSI rating is >= 0.5 AND (when surface stream present) the SVAP2 - fish habitat complexity element score is >= 7 AND the SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is >= 7, OR conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds, OR food is available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest. | Yes | No | |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met | |
| | The land adjacent to a stream, river, or other waterbody on the side or sides you control does: - have diverse, natural plant cover typical to that along streams in your area, AND - extend from the stream bank/shoreline for a distance of 35 feet or (if applicable) the minimum State buffer-width requirement, whichever is greater. | Yes | No | |
| | Plant growth and cover is managed to develop and maintain habitat to help threatened, endagered, or declining wildlife species. | Yes | No 🗌 | |
| Inadequate Habitat - Cover/Shelter | | | | |
| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met | |
| | Assessment level: The WHSI rating is >= 0.5 AND (when surface stream present) the SVAP2 - barriers to movement element score is >= 7 AND the SVAP2 - fish habitat complexity element score is >= 7 AND the SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is >= 7, OR conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds, OR cover is of available quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest. | Yes | No | |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met | |

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| CSP-2017-1 MT - NIPF Forest The forest or woodlot is fully stocked with tree species adapted to the site, has spacing for good tree growth and air flow between and beneath, does not have excessive tree mortality, has an understory made up of desirable species and is not inhibited by brush or other undesirable vegetation. Monitoring for Insects and disease is completed to prevent outbreaks that would be detrimental to forest health. Woody debris on the forest floor supports wildlife but does not present an elevated fire risk. | Yes | No |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|
| Large, old, and/or "wolf" trees are intentionally retained in the forest to provide wildlife shelter. For example, trees with gnarled appearance, loose bark, or cavities. | Yes | No |
| Dead and/or down trees are intentionally left in the forest to provide wildlife cover. | Yes | No |
| Plant growth and cover is managed to develop and maintain habitat to help threatened, endagered, or declining wildlife species. | Yes | No |
| The stream(s) have: - a natural, unaltered configuration, with minimal channel straightening, dredging, or bank alteration by armoring with rip-rap or other non-natural materials, - stable banks with limited erosion or bank failure, and - human uses and/or grazing levels that do not negatively impact bank condition. | Yes | No |
| The plant cover provides cover and shelter for the chosen wildlife species. | Yes | No |
| Livestock access to stream is controlled OR limited to small watering or crossing areas | Yes | No |
| The pond/lake, which supports a natural or planted fish population, is managed: -to exclude livestock, -to control nuisance species and undesirable aquatic vegetation controlled, -to comply with state and local regulations when stocking the pond, AND -using a buffer zone of diverse, natural plant cover at least 35 feet wide. | Yes | No |



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Inadequate Habitat - Water

| Planning Criteria | Planning Criteria Met | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|------|
| Assessment level: The WHSI rating is $>= 0.5$ AND (when surface stream present) the SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is $>= 7$, OR conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds, OR water is available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Test Met | |
| Access to water is at the right height, depth and time of year for wildlife species. | Yes | No 🗌 |



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Inadequate Habitat - Habitat Continuity (Space)

| Planning Criteria | Planning Criteria Met | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|----|
| Assessment level: The WHSI rating is >= 0.5 AND (when surface stream present) the SVAP2 - barriers to movement element score is >= 7 AND the SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is >= 7, OR conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds, OR The connectivity of habitat components are adequate to support stable populations of targeted species. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Test Met | |
| In-stream structures (dam, diversion structure, bridge, culvert, low-water stream crossing, etc.) allow for the upstream/downstream movement of fish and other aquatic animals throughout most of the year. | Yes | No |
| People, vehicles, equipment, or livestock are only moved across a stream/river at a bridge, culvert, or stabilized ford crossing(s). Travel across the stream/river beyond these crossings is controlled. | Yes | No |
| The forest or woodlot is fully stocked with tree species adapted to the site, has spacing for good tree growth and air flow between and beneath, does not have excessive tree mortality, has an understory made up of desirable species and is not inhibited by brush or other undesirable vegetation. Monitoring for Insects and disease is completed to prevent outbreaks that would be detrimental to forest health. Woody debris on the forest floor supports wildlife but does not present an elevated fire risk. | Yes | No |
| Connectivity between food resources and cover and shelter is provided for the chosen wildlife species. <see action="" plan="" state="" wildlife=""></see> | Yes | No |
| The land adjacent to a stream, river, or other waterbody on the side or sides you control does: - have diverse, natural plant cover typical to that along streams in your area, - extend from the stream bank/shoreline for a distance of 35 feet or (if applicable) the minimum State buffer-width requirement, whichever is greater, AND - have few places where concentrated runoff flows through. | Yes | No |



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Livestock Production Limitation

Inadequate Feed and Forage

| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| | Assessment level: When the land use has a "grazed" modifier, livestock forage, roughage and supplemental nutritional requirements addressed. | Yes | No 🗌 |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| | An existing prescribed grazing plan is on schedule. Animal stocking levels and rotation periods are designed to avoid harm to sensitive plants. | Yes | No 🗌 |
| In | adequate Water | | |
| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met |
| | Assessment level: When the land use has a "grazed" modifier, water of acceptable quality and quantity adequately distributed to meet animal needs. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| | An existing prescribed grazing plan is on schedule. Animal stocking levels and rotation periods are designed to utilize available water sources without damaging them. | Yes | No |